

House File 570 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 570

BY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 119)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to assault including assault on a pregnant
2 person and domestic abuse assault, and providing penalties.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 708.2, Code 2023, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 3A. A person who commits a violation of
4 subsection 2 or 3 against another person who the person knows
5 or reasonably should know is a pregnant person is guilty of a
6 class "D" felony.

7 Sec. 2. Section 708.2A, subsection 2, Code 2023, is amended
8 by adding the following new paragraph:

9 NEW PARAGRAPH. e. A class "D" felony, if the domestic
10 abuse assault is committed against a person who is known to be,
11 or reasonably should be known to be, pregnant, and that is a
12 violation of paragraph "b", "c", or "d".

13 Sec. 3. Section 708.2A, subsection 3, Code 2023, is amended
14 by adding the following new paragraph:

15 NEW PARAGRAPH. c. A class "D" felony if the first offense
16 was classified as a class "D" felony, and the second offense
17 would otherwise be classified as a serious or aggravated
18 misdemeanor.

19 EXPLANATION

20 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
21 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

22 This bill relates to assault including assault on a pregnant
23 person and domestic abuse assault.

24 ASSAULT — PREGNANT PERSON. The bill provides that a person
25 who commits an assault against another person who the person
26 knows or reasonably should know is a pregnant person which
27 causes bodily injury or mental illness, or who uses or displays
28 a dangerous weapon in connection with the assault, is guilty
29 of a class "D" felony.

30 DOMESTIC ABUSE ASSAULT — PREGNANT PERSON. The bill
31 provides that a person who commits domestic abuse assault
32 commits a class "D" felony if the domestic abuse assault is
33 committed against a person who is known to be, or reasonably
34 should be known to be, pregnant, and any of the following
35 occur: the domestic abuse assault causes bodily injury or

1 mental illness; the domestic abuse assault is committed with
2 the intent to inflict a serious injury upon another, or if
3 the person who commits the domestic abuse assault displays a
4 dangerous weapon in connection with the assault; or if the
5 person who commits the domestic abuse assault knowingly impedes
6 the normal breathing or circulation of the blood of another by
7 applying pressure to the throat or neck of the other person or
8 by obstructing the nose or mouth of the other person.

9 DOMESTIC ABUSE ASSAULT — SECOND OFFENSE PENALTY. The
10 bill provides that a person who commits a second domestic
11 abuse assault commits a class "D" felony if the person's first
12 domestic abuse assault was classified as a class "D" felony,
13 and the second domestic abuse assault would otherwise be
14 classified as a serious or aggravated misdemeanor.

15 A class "D" felony is punishable by confinement for no more
16 than five years and a fine of at least \$1,025 but not more than
17 \$10,245.